

EVENING BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1902.

Cable Day will not go begging for Mainland representatives when we have two such prominent men as Commissioners Eustis and Fortune in the town.

Steel furniture is the latest feature in the equipment of battlefields. Officers and men iron-bound and copper-fastened will be the next demand of the iron fighting-age.

"Eagle," the name selected for the new cup defender, furnishes an expression of speed and patriotism that should send the Shamrock II home defeated, if a name counts for anything.

Why shouldn't the steamship companies celebrate Cable Day, by giving the public a free ride to the cable landing. Charging a dollar a head for the hoipoiol sounds like putting a price on a free lunch.

Assurance has been given San Francisco that the transport trade will not be given over to the private corporations centering at Seattle. With a cable station at its command, Honolulu ought to see to it that the transport trade comes to this port as against Hongkong and Yokohama.

It is difficult to inspire sympathy for a person fairly convicted of murder. At the same time putting people to death when it is possible to keep them in prison for life is questionable business for civilized governments. The death penalty of modern times is but a few steps removed from the dark ages when head chopping was a pastime.

The national anti-saloon league says the anti-liquor law has not had a fair trial. It evidently wants the increased "drunk and disorderly" record made by the Army under this law stretched over a series of years. People who are competent to judge believe the law has resulted in too many trials, and time will not reduce the number.

The enthusiasts on colored labor from the South could very easily make a proposition to furnish agricultural laborers with families, the remuneration of the enlisting agents being contingent on their furnishing the goods. A theory backed up by such confidence would not long go begging in this Territory where plantation labor is at a premium.

China's new representative to the United States has recommended compulsory school attendance for all Chinese children under ten years of age. While the prospects for the Empress Dowager accepting this idea are slim, it is nevertheless an evidence of Chinese progress. Not so long ago such a recommendation would have resulted disastrously for its author.

SATISFACTORY DECISION.

The decision of the committee on a site for a public building is particularly satisfactory. In recording a preference which involves the purchase of private property and at the same time recommending that the Territory turn over to the Federal government a block of land suggested as a possible site, the committee has opened the way for the Federal government to exercise its own sweet will. If the government is willing to purchase a site, there is nothing to prevent obtaining a most satisfactory location at a nominal figure. Should it be decided to place the building on government land, the property is available.

The Bulletin agrees with the committee that the site opposite the Young building is preferable to any that has been named. It does not believe, however, that the advantages of this site over the one proposed by Carter are sufficient to warrant a contest that will delay an appropriation for the

building. Commissioner Eustis, representing the Government, has said, "It is up to Honolulu." The action of the committee puts a first and second choice before the Federal authorities and now "It is up to the Federal Government."

Thinks Colored Labor Can Be Satisfactory

Editor Evening Bulletin:—After reading T. McCants Stewart's views in regard to introducing colored labor for plantation work in Hawaii, I cannot conform with his ideas. My opinion is exactly in accord with Mr. Fortune's, as I have had experience in handling colored labor immigration for several years and I find that they are the best laborers you can procure any where. I mean the better class of laborers, regardless of any race. It is true there is bad among all classes of labor. I don't have reference to city bums and ruffians. I mean good, honest, hard working farmers. To my own knowledge there are hundreds of good families in Mississippi that have no homes, only working on shares and some for much less wages than what is offered them here. This is the case in other southern States, as North Carolina, Georgia and Louisiana. It is true the majority of those brought here were people who resided in the towns and near the city. You could not expect anything but a failure, although there are a few good ones among the lot. The agents who got these people here only did so for the money they could make out of it, for I came to the islands from the States about two years ago in company with two agents, who brought a party of eleven and one party of eighteen colored laborers for Hawaii, and heard them say they knew the class of labor they had would not be satisfactory, but they did not care, all they wanted was somebody and all the money they could get out of it. So you see colored labor has not been given a fair show, and before Mr. Stewart or the planters should oppose them, give them more consideration, from all points. I must say immigration of the colored race is, or will be before the labor problem is settled, very desirable. At the same time the white man will not become the "back bone" of these islands, and here is a chance for the colored man to develop and become the mainstay of the Territory. The white man will not till the soil; he is content to do the trading. Allow me to say that some of the planters who had the experience with these few immigrants believe that they are a fair sample of colored laborers. This is unjust. It is unfortunate that more care was not taken in the selection. It may be said here that all experiments in importing white laborers from America and the north of Europe have also been equally disastrous. Little care has been taken in selecting the right kind of men, a certain plantation importing Germans is an exception. Being familiar with colored labor in the South, I advise that the subject be carefully studied in advance, that no errors may be made.

I am, respectfully,
W. H. NEWLAND.

GROWTH OF HILO.

[Hilo Tribune.]
The growth of wealth in Hilo and surrounding territory during the past five years has been by leaps and bounds. The average yearly increase in assessed valuation of real estate and personal property, speaks for itself. The Hilo-Kohala Railroad and the breakwater are on the way. When these two great improvements materialize, the business activity of Hilo will be revolutionized. The people of Hilo by pulling together, and pulling hard, can bring these things to pass. It is a program in which no Hilo man can afford to lay down.

TARIFF AND HAWAII.

[Atlanta Constitution.]
A phase of the tariff question which is of especial interest taken in connection with the imperialistic colonial policy of the Republican party, is the practice long existing among "infant industries" of imposing upon the home consumer as high a price as tariff handicapped foreign competition will permit, and selling in foreign markets at a decidedly reduced price. The inconsistency and injustice of the practice has been pointed out often enough, but as an edifying object lesson, some of our "insular dependencies" and other islands that have thus far escaped us are just now affording an interesting study. The Hawaiian colony, it would seem, is realizing the disadvantage of being a part of the United States, when it comes to purchasing American goods. When the islands belonged to Queen Liliuokalani, they could buy in the world's markets at closest competitive prices, and the Yankee drummer was on the ground to see that his house was not underbid. It is quite different now. The Hawaiian consumer must pay American domestic prices, for the European manufacturer finds the American revenue collector awaiting his cargo at Honolulu. The following letter from an American manufacturer to the Iron Age explains the whole "snap":
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to Honolulu. Is it fair to consider the Hawaiian Islands entitled to export prices? Our own opinion is that they have become a part of the United States, and should be considered domestic territory as much as Alaska. Also, we understand our tariff applies to this territory, so that they are prohibited from buying outside, and we are thus enabled to get domestic prices. It is said that the chief argument advanced against American annexation by the inhabitants of the Danish West Indies was the trade disadvantage imposed by the American tariff, and the same argument is understood to have had much weight in prejudicing the Cubans against American citizenship. The Bahamas Islands off the Florida coast is much better off than the Florida when he desires to purchase an article of American manufacture. The tariff encourages the conduct of trade on that kind of sliding scale.

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